Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 29. – Cancelled.

30. (Currently amended) An Ig fraction obtained by a method comprising ~~the following steps:~~

a) preparing an insoluble support onto which is grafted a component selected from the group consisting of polyvalent IgGs, polyvalent IgMs and DNP-lysine,

b) adsorbing polyvalent Igs onto the support obtained in step a),

c) eluting the Igs retained on ~~the~~ a portion of immunoglobulins bound to the support, so as to collect ~~the~~ a first intermediate fraction connected through IgG-IgG or IgM-IgG idiotypic interactions, or eluting ~~the~~ a second intermediate fraction which interacts with DNP,

d) selecting ~~the~~ from the first or the second intermediate fractions a third intermediate fraction having reactivity with ~~respect to~~ IgMs, IgG F(ab')2s or ~~the~~ a hapten DNP, little or no reactivity with ~~respect to~~ non-self antigens and/or polyreactivity with ~~respect to~~ autoantigens, and

e) selecting ~~the~~ from the third intermediate fractions the Ig fraction having activity which inhibits ~~the~~ a proliferation of lymphocytes in mixed culture.

31. (Currently amended) The Ig fraction of claim 30, wherein the ~~selected~~ Ig fraction inhibits the proliferation of lymphocytes 10 to 50 times more effectively than commercially available, polyvalent IgGs.

32. (Currently amended) The Ig fraction of claim 30, wherein the Ig fraction contains the polyvalent Igs selected from the group consisting of IgGs and IgMs.

33. (Currently amended) A method for preparing ~~the~~ an Ig fraction ~~of claim 30, wherein the Ig fractions are prepared from polyvalent Igs~~ comprising

a) preparing an insoluble support onto which is grafted a component selected from the group consisting of polyvalent IgGs, polyvalent IgMs and DNP-lysine,

b) adsorbing polyvalent Igs onto the support obtained in step a),

c) eluting the Igs retained on a portion of immunoglobulins bound to the support, so as to collect a first intermediate fraction connected through IgG-IgG or IgM-IgG idiotypic interactions, or eluting a second intermediate fraction which interacts with DNP,

d) selecting from the first or the second intermediate fraction a third intermediate fraction having reactivity with IgMs, IgG F(ab')2s or a hapten DNP, little or no reactivity with non-self antigens and/or polyreactivity with autoantigens, and

e) selecting from the third intermediate fraction the Ig fraction having activity which inhibits a proliferation of lymphocytes in mixed culture.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the polyvalent Igs ~~used to prepare the fractions~~ consist of IgGs or IgMs.

35. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~for preparing the Ig fraction~~ of claim ~~30~~ 33, wherein step d) further comprises measuring ~~the~~ a level of enrichment of antibodies reactive against IgMs, IgG F(ab')2s or ~~the~~ a hapten DNP used for ~~the~~ purification.

36. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~for preparing the Ig fraction~~ of claim 33 ~~30~~, wherein step d) comprises an ELISA carried out on a panel of autoantigens selected from the group consisting of actin, myosin, MBP and tubulin.

37. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~for preparing the Ig fraction~~ of claim 33 ~~30~~, wherein the Igs retained in step b) are eluted with a buffer comprising a chaotrope selected from the group consisting of glycine-HCl and sodium iodide.

38. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~for preparing the Ig fraction~~ of claim 33 ~~30~~, wherein the ~~adsorption~~ adsorbing step is carried out in phosphate buffered saline under temperature conditions ranging from 4° to 40°C ~~and in phosphate buffered saline~~.

39. (Previously presented) A method of treating an autoimmune disease in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 30.

40. (Previously presented) A method of treating graft-versus-host-disease in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 30.

41. (Previously presented) A method of preventing or treating graft rejection after transplantation in a patient comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 30.

42. (Currently amended) A method of treating in a patient a neurological disease selected from the group consisting of adult Guillain-Barre syndrome, chronic demyelinating

inflammatory polyneuropathies, dermatomyositis, myasthenia and multiple sclerosis ~~in a patient~~ comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 30.

43. (Canceled)